

In the specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, first paragraph:

Field of the invention

The invention relates to a drawing furnace for manufacturing optical fiber ~~according to the preamble of the appended claim 1.~~

Background of the invention

Page 3, first paragraph:

Summary of the invention

The main purpose of the present invention is to present equipment that is used in the manufacture of optical fiber, with which equipment the sealing of the heating part of the furnace is improved and thus the travel of impurity particles to the inside of the drawing furnace and the fiber being formed in the furnace is prevented. In addition, with the invention, control of the flow of gases fed to the drawing furnace is significantly improved, as a result of which the gas flow surrounding the fiber being formed behaves well from the point of view of the fiber forming

process.

Page 3, second paragraph:

~~To attain these purposes, the drawing furnace according to the invention is primarily characterized in what will be presented in the characterizing part of the independent claim 1.~~

Page 3, third paragraph:

~~The other, dependent claims will present some preferred embodiments of the invention.~~

Page 4, fourth paragraph:

Brief description of the drawings

In the following, the invention will be described in more detail with reference to the appended drawings, in which

Page 5, second paragraph:

Detailed description of embodiments of the invention

The appended figures are principled and, for better clarity, details irrelevant to understanding the

invention have been left out, such as the cooling channels in the upper part of frame part 11 of drawing furnace 10.

Paragraph bridging pages 8 and 9:

A cover part 20 is arranged over the gas tube 16 in the upper part of the drawing furnace 10, which part closes the connection of the heating element 12 and the insulating layer 13 up to the outside space of the drawing furnace. If necessary, it is possible to arrange cooling to the cover part 20 by using, for example, cooling channels ~~21~~ 22 formed to the cover, in which channels a suitable medium is circled, such as cooling water. Cooling the cover part 20 prevents too much heat transferring to the other structures of the drawing furnace.

Page 9, first paragraph:

According to the invention, the cover part 20 is now fitted in relation to the gas tube 16 in such a manner, that the cover part can move vertically. It is advantageous to attach the cover part 20 to the gas tube 16 with flexible fastening means ~~22~~ 21, for example by springs, which allow the cover part to move vertically. The change in the vertical length of the heating element 12 creates the vertical movement of the cover part 20, which change is created by the thermal expansion of the heating element 12 following the change of temperature. As a result of the change in the length of the heating element 12 the lower inner tube 18b arranged against the heating element moves vertically substantially a range corresponding to the change in length. In which case the upper inner tube 18a also moves vertically substantially the same range corresponding to the

change in the length of the heating element 12. Thus the cover part 20 arranged above the gas tube 16, against the inner tube 18b, moves also vertically when the length of the heating element 12 varies. The movement of cover part 20 is substantially the same as the vertical length change of heating element 12 and the vertical movement of the inner tubes 18a, 18b of the gas tube 16, when the inner tubes substantially are not thermally expanded.